

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 1929

This meeting was held at The New York Botanical Garden, with 29 members present. The minutes of the annual meeting of January 8 were read and approved. The President reported the following changes in the standing committees:

Finance Committee, R. A. Harper, J. H. Barnhart, Sereno Stetson, Mrs. Helen M. Trelease.

Local Flora Committee, cryptogams, Miss C. C. Haynes was added.

Program Committee, Forman T. McLean was added, making the committee as follows: Forman T. McLean, Mrs. E. G. Britton, Wm. Crocker, A. H. Graves, T. E. Hazen, and M. A. Howe.

Dr. Barnhart made the following report of the budget committee:

<i>Estimated Income</i>		<i>Estimated Outgo</i>	
Membership Dues	\$1,900.00	Bulletin	\$2,600.00
Bulletin	1,250.00	Editor, Bulletin	100.00
Torreyia	150.00	Torreyia	600.00
Memoirs	100.00	Index cards	650.00
Index cards	900.00	Treasurer	150.00
Advertisements	100.00	Bibliographer	150.00
		Sundries	150.00
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	\$4,400.00		\$4,400.00
		Available surplus for Memoirs (or Bulletin)	\$ 600.00

This budget was adopted by the Club.

The following new members were proposed and unanimously elected:

Mr. Alexander Apisdorf and Miss Elizbeth Kargus.

The resignation of Dr. Harold Sands was accepted with regret.

The Auditing Committee has examined the accounts of the treasury and find that they are correct and in excellent condi-

tion. The report was signed by R. A. Harper and Tracy Hazen.

Dr. Sinnott, Dr. Graves, Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Hastings, and Mrs. Dodge have been asked to act on the Entertainment Committee.

Mr. Ernst J. Schreiner spoke of Aeroplane Dusting of spruce forests with insecticides to kill the spruce bud work. These experiments were carried out by the Entomological Branch of The Canadian Department of Agriculture during June, 1927. The first step was to lay out a number of plots 800 feet by 400 feet. The aeroplane was supplied by The Dominion Air Board. Test flights were made to determine the ground speed of the aeroplane and to determine the rate of delivery of the dust. Two kinds of dust were tested, calcium arsenate and lead arsenate. These dusts are poisonous to caterpillars and if they are small it will not take much dust to kill them. Calcium arsenate distributed at the rate of 20 pounds to the acre was found to be effective. Large poles with flags, tall enough to stand out above the trees were tied into the tops of corner trees, so the aviator could see the flag and know just where to dust. Dustings had to be done early between four and six o'clock in the morning. The reasons for dusting at that hour was that there was no wind. The least wind blows the dust long distances and prevents even distribution. Moisture makes the dust stick a little better early in the morning. Cape Breton didn't seem calm enough to dust in the evening. The aeroplane travelled ten to forty feet above the tree tops and west at the rate of ninety miles an hour. An aeroplane dusts five acres a minute. One thousand five hundred pounds can be taken in one aeroplane.

Dr. Fred J. Seaver spoke on an interesting phalloid. He stated that almost everyone is familiar with the phalloids because these plants have a way of forcing themselves to our attention whether we are interested or not.

To illustrate this he called attention to an incident which occurred several years ago while summering in Connecticut: Their next door neighbors were very much disturbed because, as they supposed, a small animal had crawled under their front porch and had been so inconsiderate as to die there, emitting after a few days an offensive odor. The speaker was not there at the time, but his wife, who happened to be familiar with the characteristics of this fungus called their attention to a phalloid

which was growing in the middle of their lawn. They were very much relieved and at the time very much interested in knowing that such a little fungus could cause such a big commotion. Such incidents as this are a very common occurrence.

In addition to their odor, which is attractive or offensive, according to the point of view, these plants have other features which render them very attractive. Some of the forms growing in the Tropics, especially *Clathrus*, are very brilliantly colored. Probably both the color and the odor serve to attract insects which aid in the distribution of the species.

During the past summer the speaker was interested in collecting in The New York Botanical Garden a large number of specimens belonging to the genus *Colus*. This genus is represented by six species growing in Africa, Australia, Ceylon, South America, and Java. About twenty years ago a new species, *Colus Schollenbergiae*, was described from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and is the only species of the genus known in North America. The plants collected in The New York Botanical Garden are probably identical with that species. The American species, however, is very similar to the one found in Java and there are two questions which are still unanswered: (1) Is the American species different from the foreign species, and if so, why has it not been more frequently collected in America? (2) If, as would appear, it is identical with the Java species, how did it get here and why should it have been found once in Pittsburgh and once in New York City?

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

FORMAN T. McLEAN,

*Secretary*

#### NEWS NOTES

Dr. Raymond H. Wallace, National Research Council Fellow at Columbia University, has been appointed assistant professor of botany at the Connecticut Agricultural College. Associate Professor G. Safford Torrey has been appointed professor of botany, and succeeds Dr. Edmund W. Sinnott as head of the department.

Dr. A. J. Grout, bryologist, will be at the Biological Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor this coming summer from the end